■ SOCIOLOGY

Men's attitudes towards women haven't changed, survey shows



Men have not changed in their attitudes towards women for hundreds of years, according to a survey carried out by the Giessen Institute for Scientific and Social Research under sociologist Professor Helge Pross and published in the magazine *Brigitte*.

A total of 439 men aged twenty to fifty were interviewed, filled in questionnaires and took part in discussion groups.

Fifty three per cent of them were officials and professional men, the rest belonged to the working classes. A couple were self-employed, but there were no farmers.

They were divided equally between Roman Catholics and Protestants (each 44 per cent), with the remainder belonging to no particular church.

Seventy five per cent of the men were married, the remainder single.

As far as they are concerned the age-old order of things still goes. Men are the bread-winners of the family and the woman's place is in the home bringing up children, Professor Helge Pross said during a recent lecture in the Hamburg Congress Centre.

Family and job take first and second place in men's lives. Politics and hobbies are well in the rear. Every second man would choose another occupation if he could start his life again. But none of the interviewees said he would contemplate swapping places with his wife — even supposing she were to earn more *than he could.*

Men still regard it as a slur on their virility to be financially dependent on their wives.

According to the outcome of the survey typical men's jobs are pilot, train driver, police inspector and lorry driver. *Typical women's jobs, the interviewees* thought, are charlady and secretary.

Surprisingly the men were prepared to allow that both sexes are equally suited to the occupation of vicar, party leader or mayor. But they had strong reservations about letting their wives take up such a job.

Men want their own wives to be content in the home being a housewife. The greatest qualities a wife can have, they say, are thrift, patience and motherliness.

According to this survey men in the Federal Republic see no reason why women should not be given the same rights as men — as long as these women do not happen to be their own wives.

On the whole they think women should have equal opportunities with men to rise in the world of business. With some reservations they are even acceptable as bosses.

Theoretically men are in favour of women holding their own in industry. But on a personal level they will not hear of it. It still seems to be a matter of prestige for many men that their wives "do not have to go out to work". They are even prepared to go without umpteen *extras rather than* forego their position as indispensable bread-winner-in-chief. The interviewees said they think men have better nerves, quicker reactions and more "guts" than women — qualities that are highly valuable in a day-to-day working life. Illogically, however, they are nevertheless prepared to accept a woman as Chancellor.

Perhaps the 439 men who were interviewed are after all aware that their position is not all it once was and it is for this reason that they tolerate intelligent women — with the exception of their own wives — in all occupations. Despite this, however, they see no call for increasing equality for women in industry.



"... and stop calling me Mummy!"

(Cartoon: Pax/Frankfurter Rundschau)

"Bringing up children properly is more important than any job" say two-thirds of the interviewees.

Between the lines of the study it is evident that men subconsciously want a motherly wife. And asked if they are good lovers fifty per cent confessed shamefacedly "no; I don't know."

Gisela Kranefuss

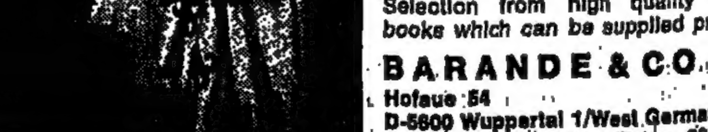
(Die Welt, 24 February 1977)

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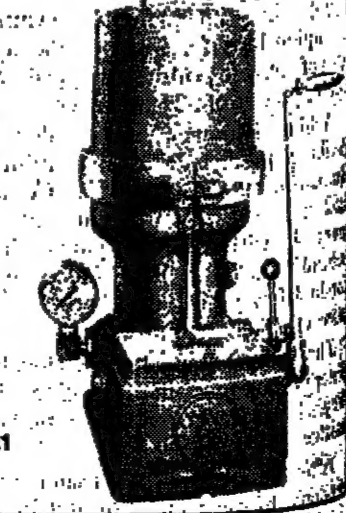
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A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

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Genscher offers hope for Middle East negotiations

Frankfurter Rundschau

Israel really is in an unenviable position at present. The United States has announced that by the terms of any Middle East settlement Israel will be required to accept substantial revisions to its current frontiers. What is more, President Carter has acknowledged the right of Palestinians, too, to a homeland.

At the PLO congress in Cairo the Palestinians made it clear that they have no intention of abandoning the basic tenets of the PLO charter.

All things considered, Israeli government officials in Jerusalem must surely have been feeling most upset. But Bonn Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher brought more encouraging news in two respects.

First, he was able to brief the Israeli government on his talks in Cairo, Damascus and Amman, the outcome of which could well encourage Jerusalem to embark on negotiations.

The indications are that Egypt, Syria and Jordan are not currently disposed to lend the PLO much more than occasional verbal backing — which is precious little, considering what aid the Palestinians used to receive.

In principle these three seem to have been joined by Saudi Arabia, which in the past may never have granted the PLO asylum, say, but has been generous in its financial support.

The pressure these Arab countries have evidently brought to bear on the PLO has been apparent at the Cairo congress. There may have been no acceptance of fundamental changes in the PLO charter, but it does look as though Yasser Arafat may be granted greater negotiation leeway.

Even the hard-core rejectionist front within the Palestinian National Council has bowed to circumstances and chosen not to pull out of the PLO, realising that as matters stand any such move would amount to a headlong leap into total political isolation.

What is more however, Herr Genscher demonstrated in Jerusalem that Europe may well be able to lend a useful hand in bringing about negotiations.

This forms part of the flanking measures to back up Israeli and US efforts to which Herr Genscher has repeatedly referred. In the course of his visit to Jerusalem he succeeded in dispelling some of the mistrust felt in Israel about all EEC pronouncements on the Middle East.

Jerusalem fully realises that a fresh round of talks in Geneva will need to be preceded by the most thoroughgoing preparations in a variety of respects. Otherwise the conference might well break down prematurely, thereby blocking the path to a Middle East settlement and all that could entail.

In this context Hans-Dietrich Genscher's visit and the information he was able to provide were of special importance to the Israelis. Herr Genscher is certainly keen to counteract Israeli mistrust of the European Community.

The Nine's latest statement on the Middle East, prematurely leaked, is to undergo further revision before final publication.

In the wake of Herr Genscher's visit Israel may feel encouraged not to maintain an unbendingly hard line on negotiations, even though official Arab statements do not sound unduly encouraging. Official Arab pronouncements cannot sound an encouraging note, since the Arabs are quick to accuse each other of betraying the common cause. It remains to be seen, however, whether the prospects of a Middle East settlement can be transformed into action.

Precipitate haste is not the answer. The countries on both sides must surely be aware of the domestic problems they face. The pressure these problems bring to bear might yet induce Israel and the Arabs to make cautious approaches to one another.

Christian M. Schöne

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 21 March 1977)



West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher being welcomed by Israeli Foreign Minister Yigal Allon at Ben Gurion Airport, Tel Aviv on 16 March (Photo: dpa)

IN THIS ISSUE

Brandt to chair development aid group

SPD Chairman Willy Brandt has decided to accept the chairmanship of an international commission for Third World development problems offered to him by World Bank President Robert McNamara.

The commission will consist of leading politicians and, as Herr Brandt put it, "some of the foremost experts." Its task will be to work out proposals for speedy social and economic progress in the developing nations during the next decade.

Willy Brandt has not yet said whom he will appoint as members of the commission, but he intimated that he was thinking of people like Edward Heath or Henry Kissinger. He said that there were some three dozen suitable people he could think of to fill the twelve seats — six of them representing the industrialised and six the developing nations. The commission is to have a Secretary-General and a staff of experts.

Herr Brandt pointed out, however, that his forming the commission would be contingent on progress at the North-South Dialogue in Paris where a ministerial conference is scheduled for May.

According to Herr Brandt, the commission will be no substitute for official negotiations, but will concentrate on providing constructive proposals for the eighties.

Willy Brandt would evidently like to *model his commission on that chaired* a few years ago by the former Canadian Prime Minister Lester Pearson which, a few years ago, presented a comprehensive report on the socalled second development decade.

Speaking about his own task within the commission, Herr Brandt said that he was confident that he would be able to present that which has to be said by the end of this year or in the course of next year to both the developing nations and the industrialised nations with the same lack of bias.

If the transfer of affluence from the industrialised to the developing nations is to be accelerated, both sides will have to know what they want and what they can expect from each other.

Heinz Murmann

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 15 March 1977)

Opposition to Germany's Leopard tank

The standardisation of Nato weaponry has occupied the Atlantic Alliance since its inception, though little progress has been achieved in this sector. Most projects to that effect foundered on national interests.

West Germany, having developed weapons of its own which met with great interest throughout the world, believed that it held a trump card.

But the Federal Republic was evidently mistaken in its belief. Although Washington agreed last autumn to take over certain component parts of the West German assault tank *Leopard II* for its own model XM 1 — in return "Leo" was to be equipped with an American engine — America committed itself without consulting with the powerful armaments industry.

Defence Minister Georg Leber's belief (as well as that of the CDU armaments expert Wörner) following his return from the United States that the Americans would abide by their commitment was, of course, based on statements by the American government. But Herr Leber seems to have overlooked the powers in the background. In any event, he still insists on the deal.

But his attempt to make the purchase of the American early warning system AWACS contingent on this deal has caused a great deal of disenchantment.

The value of AWACS is hotly disputed. And since the Federal Republic is expected to bear the lion's share of the expense for AWACS, Georg Leber believes that he has an effective lever with which to exert pressure.

But the Defence Minister would be well-advised to steer clear of such barter deals. If the tank deal fails to materialise, America will have to bear the blame because it was Washington which insisted on standardisation. Now it has a chance to set a good example.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 18 March 1977)



BONN

Our Parliamentary set-up has become too cumbersome

Has our Bundestag (Parliament) deteriorated? To answer this question, we must first ask ourselves who becomes a member of the Bundestag.

Only our first Bundestag, at a time when the Rederal Republic was still in its infancy, had independent members; and they failed to be re-elected to the next Bundestag. The parties thus have a monopoly on parliamentary seats. And the nomination of candidates within the parties is in fact a preliminary election to the Bundestag.

Although the voter decides on election day how many mandates a particular party is to be awarded, it is the party which decides who the holder of the mandate will be.

The question is whether suitability of the candidate is a criterion in nominating him. If this were in fact so, the parliamentary floor leaders of the various parties would not have to bite their nails before every election wondering if colleagues whom they consider indispensible for the job will be re-elected.

But the floor leaders have no say whatsoever in this matter. Their backing for a candidate frequently does more harm than good.

The nomination of candidates is entirely in the hands of the electoral district delegates.

And for them suitability for a Bundestag job is less important than popularity in the electoral district. After all, MPs who are fully devoted to their parliamentary job and work hard at it have no time to attend functions in their districts and generally make themselves popular.

On the other hand, those who devote more time to making themselves popular among the voters, neglecting their parliamentary work, are unlikely to be missed by their parties' floor leaders — but by the same token they can be pretty certain of being re-elected.

State party leaders shudder every time they are confronted with the task of nominating candidates. They must, for instance, take into account whether the man of their choice has an "in" with local clubs and associations in his district.

Moreover, state party chairmen must make sure that their candidates appeal to all sectors of the population. They want to have a man who will suit business, a man with whom the trade unions will be satisfied, one for the farmers, one who will appeal to the middle class and, of course, there should be a woman and preferably also somebody who will enjoy the trust of the youth.

With all these criteria having to be taken into account, it is obvious that there is little room left to consider the candidate's qualification for his job as MP.

It is the parties' privilege to name the man who will stand for parliament, but it is also their duty to weigh up carefully whom they will nominate.

Our Bundestag is a parliament of committees. The chairmen of these committees enjoy a lofty position in the parliamentary hierarchy and, furthermore, the committee to which an MP belongs can easily be a decisive factor for his further political career.

Thus, for instance, an MP who has a seat and a vote on the Budget Committee makes weightier decisions than his opposite number on the Petition Committee — regardless of how devoted the latter might be to his job.

Parliamentary floor leaders have a hard time coping with the demand for committee posts. This is particularly so where the Foreign Affairs Committee is concerned — not only because this entails frequent and distant travels but also because it lends the committee member an aura of being familiar with all the ins and outs of world politics, thus contri-



buting to his prestige among the electorate.

This is a delusion at which those truly familiar with foreign affairs can only smile benignly.

With everybody wanting to be on a committee it is not surprising that so many seats in parliament remain empty during debates.

The MPs have a plausible excuse, saying that they have to rush from one committee meeting to another. The question is: does our Bundestag have too many committees? Must we have 19 of them?

With a proposed Bill having had its first reading, it happens time and again that the President of the Bundestag has to inform Parliament that the Bill must now not only go to the committee under whose jurisdiction it falls, but also to four or even more other committees for deliberation.

While the excessive number of Ministries hampers the Government's administrative work, too many committees prevent the parliamentary machinery from operating smoothly. In fact, with fewer committees the snail might cease to be the symbol of parliamentary procedure.

Gathered in their parliamentary party office of the Bundestag, MPs listen with awe to what committee experts have to say on a particular issue. And contradicting these experts might easily earn an MP the reputation of being a layman contradicting an expert.

But even the parliamentary expert could easily succumb to the danger of failing to see the trees for the forest.

Thus, for instance, social affairs, tax and economic legislation can become a maze so confusing that even the best of experts must lose his way.

Despite complaints in the Bundestag that our perfectionist bureaucracy wants laws which are so confusing that no citizen can make head or tail of them, committees have so far been unable to present draft Bills which would bring some order into this jungle. In fact, many experts on parliamentary committees wven outperform our bureaucracy in what they call "perfectionism".

The committee expert's aura of infallibility among his fellow party members in parliament frequently induces the latter to stop thinking and making decisions for themselves, leaving everything to the expert.

The plenary session thus becomes a mere adjunct to discussions within the committees. All that happens at such sessions is that committee chairmen repeat the results they arrived at in their sessions. Small wonder, then, that our parliament is conspicuously empty during such non-debates.

There can be little doubt that parliamentary sessions would become more popular, both among MPs and the public at large, if they were not marked by a succession of long monologues.

All too often do we hear the President of the Bundestag say: "MP X has the floor for one hour." And how often does it happen that, when he is signalled that the hour is up, the speaker finds himself with pages and pages of his prepared speech still unread and has to ask for an extension.

In fact, speeches should not be read at all because Bundestag procedure demands that they be adlibbed.

The manuscript on the speaker's lectern should disappear forever and MPs should be made to understand that speeches do not gain in weight through length.

This principle has been implemented in the Bundestag's "question time", when no MP can hold the floor for very long.

Verbal diarrhoea and using much sound and fury signifying nothing only promotes lethargy in parliament.

All this should be taken as a warning signal for our Bundestag. Being an MP must not be such an easy and simple affair and the parties should take more care in deciding who is to become a representative of the people.

Eugen Gerstenmaier, a former President of the Bundestag, said when the number of MPs was increased by 100 in the second Bundestag in order to provide the deputies for the European Parliamentary Assembly that our parliament had far too many representatives.

The fact that our first Bundestag is generally considered to have been the best is not due to the fact that it had fewer members, but because in the early stages of the Federal Republic the nomination of candidates was not yet a matter of party routine.

The parliamentary machinery in Bonn, with its party work groups, its committees and its staff in general, is impressive. But such a machinery could well jettison some of the ballast instead of — as has been demanded by some MPs — enlarging it still further.

The parliamentary reform of which there has been talk lately must help to loosen the combersome procedures and to transform parliamentary debates into dialogues and, indeed, verbal duels.

Alfred Rapp

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 11 March 1977)

State interests again dominant in Bundesrat voting

The latest voting decisions in the Bundesrat (Upper House) seem confusing at first glance. Lower Saxony and the Saar, for instance, voted in one instance with the CDU-governed states and, in the other, against them.

The Free Democrats as well as the Christian Democrats opposed (though on different occasions) the Federal guidelines of their parties.

The old confrontation model that prevailed in the last legislative period, with two blocs opposing each other, no longer applies to the Bundesrat of today. Once more, voting attitudes seem to be governed by state interests, and the Bundesrat is thus reverting to its normal function.

"Confrontation model" is of course a somewhat inaccurate description for the previous Bundesrat, since certain laws which needed the approval of the Upper House (such as the tax package) necessitated a compromise by their very nature. But there can be no doubt that there is a differentiation process on the basis of state interests in progress. The following groups have evolved:

1. The SPD-governed city-state of Bremen. Its representatives are probably those who adhere closest to the Social Democratic line of thought. It is by no means coincidental that the Bremen Senator Franke spoke of "blocking measures" at the last debate, saying that he "cannot rid himself of the impression that the Bundesrat has become a mere lever to be used against the Federal Government."

2. The SPD/FDP-governed states Northrhine-Westphalia, Hamburg, Hesse and West Berlin (its particular staus imposes a special role on the city). The representatives of these states and city-states are more willing to enter into compromises where proposals put foward by the Opposition are concerned. Northrhine-Westphalia seems to play a leading role in this respect.

3. Lower Saxony and the Saar, with their CDU/FDP coalition governments enjoy a special position inasmuch as they can tip the scales.

4. Rhineland-Palatinate and Schleswig-Holstein. They pursue a clear, but not inflexible, CDU policy. As a result they might be prepared to arrive at a compromise with the Federal Governement.

5. Bavaria and Baden-Württemberg. Wherever state interests are at stake, the Bavarians are the most unyielding opponents of the Federal Government. This Federalism is accentuated still further by conservative attitudes à la Filbinger and Franz Josef Strauss.

All this makes forecasts extremely difficult. Moreover, votes are also affected by such criteria as whether the states involved are poor ones (all CDU-governed states with the exception of Baden-Württemberg) or rich ones.

Any legislation requiring Bundesrat approval must fail if either Lower Saxony or the Saar refuse to vote for it.

Even the latest votes in the Bundesrat provide no clear-cut means of prediction. These involved preliminary solutions to problems which were inadequately prepared and discussed. As as result the Saar government reserved the right to put forward its "final opinion".

The trend of future draft bills requiring Bundesrat approval is gradually becoming discernible: They will have to make more concessions to the CDU, and in some instances the Free Democrats (at least some of them) will make use of the Bundesrat as a lever in implementing legislation which they could otherwise not implement through their coalition partner.

The attempt to reduce national health expenditures could easily become an example of this. The Bundesrat decision on behalf of this country's doctors has found its adherents among FDP ranks.

Simultaneously with the Bundesrat process of arriving at a decision becoming more complicated, the Bundesrat as a whole seems to be gaining in importance.

Some of the most important legislative projects (tax reforms and rehabilitation of the national health system) can-

Continued on page 5

EMPLOYMENT

Tomorrow's jobs will be more in the service industries, say experts

Labour Exchange waiting rooms are crowded out every day by about ten o'clock with people looking for jobs, training posts or, failing that, at least unemployment benefit.

Many of them are school-leavers, others are youngsters who have suddenly been made redundant or tried jobs they were unsuited for. Many of these are desperately trying to find an apprenticeship or training post.

But that is easier said than done these days. The number of training posts and apprenticeships in industry, commerce and skilled trades has diminished steadily in the past few years. Today every tenth youngster in the Federal Republic is jobless.

The hardest hit are people leaving special schools for backward children and those leaving school at fifteen, poorly qualified or unqualified.

Unions and employers' representatives say that it is not the shortage of training posts that makes it so difficult for these school-leavers to find a place, but the higher demands placed on trainess in almost every branch of trade and industry.

According to a study carried out by the Federal Institute of Industry in Cologne, personnel officers and trainers of school-leavers complain that many secondary modern school-leavers are inadequately prepared for a working life by their school education.

Ninety-six per cent of them said their trainees' understanding of basic mathematics was inadequate. Seventy-nine per cent complained of trainees' inability to express themselves clearly. And 55 per cent said they could not spell.

Not only are their job chances relatively slim, many of them worsen the situation by not taking advantage of help offered by vocational guidance officers until too late in the day. By that time the application deadline for further schooling, is long since past and the immediately available training posts have already been taken.

As a result many land in jobs they are not interested in and which later get them nowhere, as statistics show only too clearly. Two out of every three people in this country are dissatisfied with their jobs. And many trainees would choose another job if they could start over again.

Choosing a job is becoming more than ever a case of sticking a pin in a list. Technological progress has revolutionised "old" occupations and created innumerable new ones, particularly in the field of energy, electronics and plastics.

More is demanded of vocational guidance officers. It is as important to give them more training as it is to invest more in researching the future working world, which occupations will die out and where the greatest chances lie.

Inventions are increasing automation in industry from day to day. In some branches, such as the textile industry, the process of automation is largely complete. In others it is just beginning, but it is nevertheless clear what effect it will have on unemployment.

Today there are machines on the market which can write seven hundred letters in a day and a half. Normally several secretaries would need twice this time. And phonetic type writers are already being developed.

Contrary to ideas propagated by science fiction films and books, nuclear experts, space technicians, marine specialists and biochemists are not going to be the people most in demand in the future, according to many occupation researchers.

Dr Dieter Mertens of the Institute of Occupation Research says that in the year 2000 traditional occupations will still be well ahead of new occupations from the point of view of numbers of employees.

Naturally the demand for biochemists and computer programmers is bound to rise. The number of biochemists is even expected to double in the near future. But even then there will be a demand for only three hundred biochemists in this country.

The situation is much the same for electronic data processing. Admittedly there will be about 150,000 people working directly with computers in 1980. But that means that only 45 out of every ten thousand people in this country will be able to work in this field.

These figures are by no means arbitrary. They are based on numerous studies carried out by the Institute of Occupational Research, a subdivision of the Federal Institute of Labour in Nuremberg.

With industry requiring fewer and fewer people, it is not suprising that more and more people are being employed in the service industries. Researchers reckon that every other person in the Federal Republic will be employed in service industries by 1980.

So school-leavers should start thinking carefully about the opportunities open to them in education, social work, health, communication and advisory services. These fields offer the jobs of the future.

Occupational researchers are also saying that people will have to learn to be more flexible in future. Only one person in three has a job which has anything to do with his past education even today.

And there are already more than twenty thousand occupations at the moment. But only a few hundred of these can be regarded as lasting occupations which will still exist by the end of this century.

So by the turn of the century the ability to adapt is going to be just as important if not more so than highly specialised knowledge and qualifications.

Researchers believe that there will be very few absolutely new jobs by that time, but that jobs which already exist will develop and combine with other jobs.

In future, degrees and training qualifications are likely to be only the basis for an occupation and people will then choose freely what extra training they take beyond that for a specific occupation.

The people who are least likely to be sitting in Labour Exchange waiting rooms in the year 2000 are those who realise early enough that the working world and its demands are changing.

Detlef Michael Behrens

(Der Tagesspiegel, 13 March 1977)

Continued from page 4

not be implemented without the Upper House. This fact cannot even be changed by splitting draft bills into two parts — one needing Bundesrat approval and one that can be passed without the Upper House.

Only a compromise can help to achieve results. And there, the Free Democrats play the most interesting and, at the same time, the most dangerous part.

In any event, the FDP hopes that it can help break the blockade and bring about a reasonable solution wherever the Liberals have a say in decision-making processes.

But the hope that commonsense will triumph in the end must not be expected to come true in all instances. One thing is certain, however: any solution will have to be such as to stand a chance of getting a majority vote. Such a solution must not necessarily meet with the approval of all parties, but it must find a board enough basis of consent among the three parties represented in the Bundestag.

Rolf Zundel

(Die Zeit, 18 March 1977)

More social care urged for long-term jobless

People who are jobless for longer periods need social and psychological care, not just unemployment benefit, say research experts from the Cologne Institute for Research into Social Opportunities (ISO).

Few unemployed people have to go hungry. But a great many who are unemployed for six months or more lapse into extremes of despair and depression.

The ISO carried out a number of surveys last year and has now published the results. Social researchers Ulrich Hentschel, Carola Möller and Rüdiger Pintar pointed out in one survey that reintegrating into a working life can cause considerable problems.

Their survey showed that for varying reasons about ten per cent of this country's unemployed do nothing to try to find another job, even after a year's unemployment.

Unemployed men tend to make more effort to find a job than unemployed married women, since women can more easily fall back on their classic role as housewife and mother.

Men react more badly to lengthy periods of unemployment than women, are apt to give up all hope, and suffer from inferiority complexes. This is also accompanied by a growing belief in fatalism; and consequently an increasing tendency to do nothing.

For this reason the ISO researchers say it is not enough to give these people dole pay. They are in need of active social help.

The strain unemployment causes is reflected in the fact that more marriages go through a period of crisis and even break up completely were a person is unemployed.

The ISO studies refute the suggestion that has often been made that unemployment leads to radicalism. Hardly any of those who were asked five months before last October's General Election, blamed the Social Democratic-Free Democratic Coalition Government for the present unemployment situation. In fact, more unemployed than employed people spoke favourably of the Government.

Many unemployed people are more prepared to try another occupation than to move to another part of the country to find work. Most of these are unskilled or semi-skilled workers. Better qualified people tend to prefer to sign on for further courses in order to get even better qualifications.

The Cologne researchers had a group of 1,300 unemployed people and the same number of employed people interviewed by a market research institute last summer.

So as to make the survey as representative as possible for North Rhine-Westphalia people were interviewed in the Coesfeld rural district, Gelsenkirchen, which is an industrial urban area, and Düsseldorf which has more service industries.

In seeking out unemployed people to interview, the ISO research group sometimes came across people who hotly denied being jobless although there was no doubt at all that they were unemployed.

It proved impossible to find out exactly what percentage of unemployed people are ashamed to admit to having no job — just as it was impossible to establish what percentage of unemployed people finally become alcoholics, or show other abnormal behavioural patterns.

As Rüdiger Pintar points out, "It would have been interesting to find all that out, and it is quite important, too. But very few people are going to admit to such things."

The situation for young unemployed people and foreigners was not investigated in this study, but has been dealt with in detail in other studies carried out by the ISO.

Sociologist Gerd Wenninger has investigated how effective government measures to combat unemployment have been for young people. He reached the conclusion that subsidies to firms can lead to drastic cut in unemployment among young people for the short term.

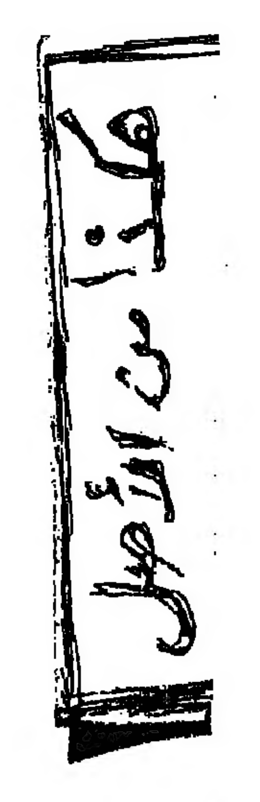
But he cast strong doubt on their advisability particularly with regard to the DM1,200 subsidy firms are entitled to for each school leaver they employ, since it is impossible to check how successful such measures are.

Herr Wenninger is of the opinion that precise regulations must be made, obliging employers to give these young people a real career chance. Without this such subsidies were nothing more than easy reward money, he said.

He went on to comment that the present subsidy system created the impression "that the politicians who decided upon such measures were more interested in reducing the number of unemployed before the elections than in making any serious effort to increase job chances for young people."

Michael Wesener

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 12 March 1977)



■ INDUSTRY

Giant Siemens concern retains vestiges of a family business

The board of directors and the Supervisory Council of the mammoth electrical concern *Siemens AG* are bound to face criticism at this moth's annual general meeting in Munich.

This is only partly due to the fact that opponents of nuclear energy are likely to turn the meeting into a demonstration for their cause. The main issue will revolve around the question concerning the risk Siemens took upon itself by committing itself in the nuclear power sector to a very considerable extent. Many a stock-holder is likely to ask whether it was wise to extend such a commitment still further by acquiring the remaining 50 per cent equity in *Kraftwerk Union* from the competitor AEG.

The Supervisory Council gave its blessings to this deal after a considerable amount of soul-searching. This is borne out by the unusually long duration of its "routine" session of 10 November 1976.

But even so, chairman of the board Bernard Plettner never had any reason to be anxious about the Supervisory Council's attitude towards this project.

After all, the chairman of the Supervisory Council, Peter von Siemens, was au fait with the progress of negotiations from the very beginning and had ample opportunity to present his views and to influence the course of the talks with AEG — and that not only at official board meetings.

Since the chairmen of the board have *adjoining offices at the company's Munich* headquarters, there was ample communication between the two — quite apart from the fact that they used to work together earlier and are also linked by ties of friendship.

Notwithstanding such close personal ties, neither of the two men would ever think of encroaching on the other's territory. Says Plettner: "Board meetings are headed by me."

Bernhard Plettner presides over a board consisting of 23 people. Considering that a major publishing house like the *Springer Verlag AG* is headed by one man, the Siemens management can only be termed well-staffed. But then one must also apply other yardsticks to a corporation with 15 branches in the Federal Republic and representation in 128 countries (there are 67 Siemens factories outside the Federal Republic).

Board member and chief administrator Max Günther freely admits that there are frictions among Siemens executives, attributable to the organisational form of the firm.

The main source of these frictions lies in the fact that Siemens wants to pursue both a uniform product policy and a uniform regional policy.

As a result, says Herr Günther, the same issue is frequently approached from different vantage points. "But," Max Günther goes on to say, "this also has its advantages, since no problem is tackled from one angle only and solutions must be sought which will do justice to both aspects."

As a result, the board of Siemens has members who are responsible for such central areas as personnel or finances, while others deal with communications technology and technical matters. There are no deputy chairmen, which prevents the outward impression of a "multi-class board".

Despite its size and its constant attempts at achieving an optimal organisational set-up (Siemens has frequently been accused of being an unwiedly bureaucracy) the huge organisation has nevertheless retained many traits of a family business.

And yet the capital share of the founding family, which originally owned 100 per cent, has dwindled to 11 per cent in the course of the concern's 100 year history. But the Siemens family still carries a weight disproportionate to its stake in the concern.

This is largely due to the fact that the family has always managed to find a suitable member to head the corporation. The "bosses" usually remain on the Supervisory Council until a very ripe old age.

But, since for Siemens the position of chairman of the Supervisory Council is anything but a mere honorary office, they are invariably prepared to vacate their posts as chairmen of the board as soon as they approach 70.

Those who are familiar with large family businesses know how difficult it is to find at least one right man in each generation who is capable of taking the helm. Siemens has over several generations been successful on that score.

Peter von Siemens, although no technician (he studied economics and sociology) had been kept on standby for the chairmanship of the Supervisory Council for some time. He joined Siemens in 1934, but was sent to Latin America in 1936 when war threatened to engulf Europe. Still in the employ of Siemens, he spent the war years in South America.



Bernhard Plettner

(Photos: Siemens)

If present plans are anything to go by, he will not be succeded by another Siemens, but by today's chairman of the board Bernhard Plettner — presumably in 1980. This is due to the fact that there is no suitable Siemens family member available for the post at present. This problem will become acute again in 1984 or 1985.

In a concern like Siemens, supervision in the strictest sense can only be exercised by a full-time chairman of the Supervisory Council.

There are no committees on the Siemens Council, only a presidium consisting (apart from Peter von Siemens) of his two deputies, namely Franz Heinrich Ulrich, Supervisory Council chairman of Deutsche Bank, and Ferdinand Turek, chairman of the overall Works Council of Siemens.

This triumvirate makes virtually all important personnel decisions which are presented for approval by the chairman of the board.

The plenary meeting of the Supervisory Council only gives its blessing to decisions previously made by the triumvirate. These personnel decisions descend the hierarchic ladder all the way down to department heads. Moreover, the Supervisory Council is at any time authorised to check all books, assets and correspondence of the company.

The remuneration of Supervisory Council members if anything but princely. Every member receives, apart from expenses, a remuneration of DM6,000 at the end of a business year plus a variable remuneration of DM2,000 for every per cent of dividends on paid-up capital exceeding four per cent. The chairman of the Supervisory Council receives twice this amount and the deputy chairman one and a half times that sum.

Since 16 per cent dividends is considered the upper limit at Siemens, members of the Supervisory Council usually receive DM30,000, with the chairman receiving DM60,000. This being so, it is obvious that many high-ranking employees of Siemens earn more.

Being a member of the Supervisory Council which, on the side of capital, is elected by the AGM is therefore hardly a matter of money, but rather of honour and tradition.

But the correct composition of this body is for Siemens also a question of business relations. In dealing with the Supervisory Council, Plettner considers official Council meetings of secondary importance.

He puts much more stock by personal contacts which are very close because captains of industry in this country meet very frequently due to their membership in numerous supervisory councils.

Plettner himself, incidentally, is not exactly blessed with a great many such posts, being a supervisory council member only at *Mannesmann*, the Hamburg Electricity Works and the *Kammerich-Reisholz GmbH.*

The main burden of Supervisory Council posts outside the Siemens concern is borne by Peter von Siemens who is a council member of the *Allianz* Insurance company, *Bayer, Deutsche Bank, Hapag-Lloyd, Mannesmann* and *J. M. Voith*. But there are also Siemens representatives on the supervisory councils of *August Thyssen-Hütte, Bosch, Daimler-Benz, Linde, Fried. Krupp Hüttenwerke* and *Norddeutsche Seekabelwerke.*

Anyone taking a closer look at the council members of Siemens elected by the AGM will soon find out that there is much reciprocity in the set-up — a reciprocity which in many instances rests on a historic development.

This applies above all to the two representatives of *Deutsche Bank* on the Supervisory Council of Siemens.

Werner von Siemens, the founder of the company, would have liked to have employed his cousin Georg Siemens. But, instead, Georg became a director of *Deutsche Bank*, which had only just been founded, in 1870. This led to close ties between Siemens and *Deutsche Bank*, which have lasted to this day.

Almost equally old are Siemens' ties with *Mannesmann*. Werner von Siemens recognised at an early stage how important the method of making seamless pipes, which was invented by Reinhard Mannesmann and his brother Friedrich would be.



Peter von Siemens

When it turned out that neither the Siemens family nor the Mannesmanns were able to raise the necessary funds for the production of the revolutionary pipes, the Siemens family managed to interest cousin Georg and thus *Deutsche Bank* in the project.

But even so, it took many years before Mannesmann managed to get out of the red. And the fact that he did so in the end was entirely due to the Siemens family and *Deutsche Bank.*

The ties with *Thyssen-Hütte* are also traditional and date back to the early years of the forerunner of *Thyssen-Hütte*, namely *Vereinigte Stahlwerke.*

This company, which came into being in 1926 as the result of a merger, was amplified by the *Siemens-Rhein-Elbe-Union*, and consequently Siemens became a member of the supervisory council of that company.

But since the *August Thyssen-Hütte* must be considered the successor of *Vereinigte Stahlwerke*, its chief executive, Dieter Spethmann, quite naturally became a member of the Siemens Supervisory Council.

The fact that of the 14 elected members of the Siemens Supervisory Council three represent banks must — as opposed to AEG — not be interpreted as dependence of Siemens on banks.

The presence on the Council of the two representatives of *Deutsche Bank* has already been explained.

The invitation to *Dresdner Bank* to occupy one of the Council seats has two reasons: For one thing, the *Dresdner Bank* is in an excellent position to find buyers for Siemens stock and handles a great number of its customers' votes by proxy; and, for another, *Dresdner Bank* is a good customer of Siemens in the data processing sector.

Werner Premauer, member of the Supervisory Council of *Bayerische Vereinsbank* in Munich, has his seat on the Siemens Council because his bank is considered the house bank of Siemens.

Science is represented on the Siemens Council by Professor Reimar Lüst, the president of the Max Planck Society. He is particularly useful as a contact man because he works in Munich and is therefore available at a monent's notice.

Ruppert Siemon was elected to the Council as a representative of small stockholders. He is a member of the German Poretctive Association of Securities Owners. After all, Siemens is anything but narrow-minded where optical impressions are concerned.

Of course, the system of ties and contacts in the selection of Council members can only be maintained if the ne-

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■ NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE

Market economy still the best concept in raw materials talks

The developing nations see in their raw materials an ideal instrument with which to overcome their underdevelopment. This is why raw materials have become a major political tool, primarily as a result of the successful oil embargo on the part of Opec, which was the first politically motivated cartel formation for a key raw material.

The effects of Opec's move go much deeper than the apparent consequences such as unutilised production capacities, unemployment, diminishing returns on capital, taxation and trade deficits.

The world-wide recession has hurt some industrialised nations (such as Britain and Italy) and some of the more developed Third World nations (as Brazil) very badly. But hardest hit are those developing nations which have neither oil nor other raw materials; in other words, the out-and-out have-nots.

The situation is perhaps best exemplified by the following figures. Before 1974, the developing nations (without Opec) had to finance balance of payments deficits to the tune of 8.000 million dollars per annum. In 1974, this deficit leapt to 26,500 million dollars, reaching 35,000 million in 1975. It is likely to stabilise at this level in the next couple of years.

The foreign indebtedness of the developing nations is estimated to reach 170,000 million dollars by the end of 1977. The average new debts of developing nations correspond roughly to two years' worth of foreign exchange revenues in one year.

Although attempts to use the methods used with regard to oil for other raw materials as well have not led to the hoped-for success, many raw materials producing countries nevertheless orient their attitudes by considerations alien to a market economy.

The resulting North-South Dialogue, which is becoming increasingly more vehement and has found a world-wide response, is concentrating more and more on a redistribution of incomes strategy, hoping to achieve a more equitable distribution of wealth throughout the world.

At the major international conferences discussion revolves around the New International Economic Order as demanded by the developing nations with the attendant Integrated Raw Materials Programme (including international agreements, indexing of raw materials prices, world-wide buffer stocks as well as offset payments in case of price and yield fluctuations).

Those familiar with the exigencies of economic cooperation cannot but find such demands over-ambitious and unrealistic.

But this does not change the fact that the stubborn persistence in bringing about such an economic arrangement will lead to consequences for those industrialised nations which are dependent on raw materials imports.

And yet, confronted with a united strategy on the part of the developing nations, many of the industrialised countries are prepared to make compromises and yield more ground than is good for them.

Some of the individual measures proposed in the raw materials policy sector seem harmless at first glance, although this is by no means so.

Fixed prices, for instance, must prove unfeasible as soon as the relation of supply and demand changes noticeably. If an equalisation cannot be achieved through the price, it is obvious that imbalances must ensure which will eventually lead to a new balance — although a very dangerous one.

A significant example of a policy that ignores the exigencies of the market is the American stockpile policy after the Korean War which, in the fifties, created an artificial market with excessive prices for a number of raw materials.

The sudden discontinuation of stockpile purchases in 1956 created an excessive supply which — in conjunction with diminishing demand due to recession — led to a price slump that was to last for almost six years. Prices were so low in some instances that they even failed to cover production costs.

Of course, our system is not entirely flawless in terms of a free market economy. Thus, for instance, the agricultural protectionism of Europe's free market economy is likely to have provided a model for the central control demands in connection with the New International Economic Order.

But in spite of all its blemishes, a market economy is still the most acceptable and feasible solution which could help the Third World achieve a certain degree of affluence.

The so-called rich countries of the West would of course have to desist from preaching a liberal international trade only as long as this benefits them.

They themselves would have live up to their liberal principles instead of infringing on them whenever it suits them. The developing nations, too, would benefit from a consistent application of the principles of a market economy. Any policy of the Western world vis-a-vis the developing nations which thinks of the future will have to make every effort to improve the functioning of an economy based on division of labour. Only once existing trade barriers vis-a-vis the Third World have been removed will there be a realistic chance of reducing the international incomes gap. But notwithstanding all understanding for the Third World's desire to have more industrial production plants, it would be fallacious to cease supplying Western plants such as refineries, steel mills etc., with raw materials and thus put them out of operation only in order to promote industry in the Third World.

Instead — considering steadily growing consumption and demand — new production capacities should be built up in the raw materials producers' countries while at the same time continuing to make use of existing plants in the industrialised West.

But there is no reason why the additional production capacities required as a result of increased demand should not be erected in the raw materials producing countries.

A study carried out by the Federal Institute for Geology and Raw Materials indicates that such a development is already in process in the tin sector.

According to this study, 46 per cent of the new production capacities in this sector envisaged for the next few years will be erected in the Third World, although their share in the known raw materials resources is considerably lower than this figure.

Of course, assistance to the Third World cannot only consist of making our markets accessible, of transfer of technology and the promotion of vertical diversification, but must also include substantial monetary measures.

This will entail financial sacrifices lest it come to an explosive confrontation in the North-South Dialogue. Long-range cooperation between the First and Third World is clearly called for.

In other words, the present government assistance on the part of the OECD nations amounting to an average of 0.3 per cent of the GNP is obviously inadequate. The Pearson Report, which was completed as far back as September 1969 and of which Wilfried Guth, board spokesman of *Deutsche Bank*, is a co-author, recommended that government development aid be increased to 0.7 per cent of the GNP by 1975. Many industrialised nations, among them the Federal Republic of Germany, still have a long way to go before reaching this target.

Walther Casper

(Die Zeit, 11 March 1977)

Herr Casper is a board member of *Metallgesellschaft AG* in Frankfurt, one of West Germany's largest companies trading in raw materials.

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cessary majority can be found in the AGM. But so far no difficulties have arisen in this respect.

Siemens AGMs are usually harmonious affairs. The only unrest in the past few years arose in heated discussions over the Siemens participation in the Cabora Bassa project in Mozambique, in which Siemens participated and which came under attack as the work of the colonialists.

But all this is water under the bridge. The arguments of the dissenters no longer hold true and all that remains are attacks by some opponents of nuclear energy among the stockholders. But even so, Siemens need not worry about massive opposition to the *Kraftwerk-Union* deal at the AGM.

It is already quite certain that the deal will be approved with a great majority without using the handy instrument of the preferred stock with its sixfold vote.

This preferred stock which represents 37.8 million deutschmarks in paid-up capital is in the possession of the Siemens family. And voting rights can be exercised uniformly by the family head — in this case the chairman of the Supervisory Council.

This preferred stock secures roughly 25 per cent of the vote to the Siemens family, which is enough to block any motion needing a three-quarter majority. But even without resorting to its preferred stock, the Siemens family, which is supported by the banks, can be sure of a majority at any time.

Incidentally, no use has as yet been made of the multiple vote, although the Siemens clan is delighted to have this facility.

When, following the oil crisis, there was a threat that the nouveau riche Arabs might buy up the best of German industry, Siemens did not have to resort to special defensive measures such as the introduction of a maximum voting right.

Siemens was fully aware of the fact that a company which is active on an international scale would be unwise to embark on changes which would discriminate against a specific group of foreigners.

Kurt Wendt

(Die Zeit, 11 March 1977)

EEC doubts if Bonn has done enough to boost the economy

Bonn is having a hard time trying to convince its EEC partners that it has done enough to boost the economy.

After several hours of debate on the periphery of the EEC Ministerial Council, Finance Minister Hans Apel had to admit in Brussels that "we are still called upon internationally to do something." And his London opposite number, Denis Healey, said "our standpoints on this issue are not yet identical."

Nevertheless, the Nine decided not to exert political pressure on Bonn. Even Francois-Xavier Ortoli, who is reesponsible for the Community's financial and economic policy, adopted a wait-and-see attitude.

He restricted himself to asking whether Bonn was prepared in case it should fail to achieve its five per cent growth target this year. Moreover, Ortoli suggested that envisaged measures aimed at promoting investments in the construction sector be implemented earlier than planned.

The Federal Government did everything in its power in Brussels to alleviate its partners' concern about its monetary stability policy.

This was evidenced by the large delegation Bonn sent to Brussels which, apart from Finance Minister Apel, also included Minister of Economic Affairs Hans Friderichs and the State Secretaries Otto Schlecht and Karl Otto Pöhl.

In a lengthy report, Friderichs presented numerous arguments in favour of Bonn's reluctance to loosen the reins on its growth policy.

Short-term measures to boost the economy, he said, are questionable because they are likely to activate the inflation spiral and to have a habit-forming effect on the economy where government stimuli are concerned.

But Herr Friderichs also pointed out that the Federal Government was prepared to administer additional booster shots should the economy fall behind target in the course of the year.

Minister Friderichs stressed that Bonn would fully meet its international responsibility — especially within the framework of the EEC. He also pointed out that the Federal Republic had the greatest increase of imports in 1975 and 1976.

Imports, according to him, rose by 17 per cent last year, compared with an EEC average of 11.5 per cent.

Above average were import increases from Great Britain (23.1 per cent), Belgium (21.2), Ireland (19) and Holland (18.8).

Although the Federal Republic is a traditional producer of capital goods, its imports of such goods rose by 48 per cent between 1974 and 1976.

Herr Apel pointed to the narrow scope of budgetary measures in boosting the economy. Excessive demands on the budget, he said, would lead to increased interest rates, thus hampering investments.

According to Hans Apel, Bonn's investment programme, which extends over several years, is expected to amount to about 8,000 million deutschmarks. But since the Federal states and municipalities will participate to a disproportionately low extent in infrastructure investments, overall government expenditures are not likely to exceed DM13,000 million.

Wilhelm Hadler

(Die Welt, 16 March 1977)

■ URBAN LIVING

Fifty towns to take part in tests to make roads safer for pedestrians

Tests are to be carried out in fifty towns in North Rhine-Westphalia for ways of making drivers drive more carefully in built-up areas. The project was started as a result of the horrifyingly high number of road accidents involving children.

A decree issued by the Ministry of Transport in November last year cleared the way for an "experiment in urban road safety" for which 89 towns have now made 130 urban areas test areas.

The towns have proposed safety measures and these are to be tried out in the fifty selected towns over a period of two years. Expert advice for the project has been supplied by the HUK Association, an association of insurance firms. The government is investing five million deutschmarks in the project.

Two out of three pedestrians who are killed on the roads in this country are children or elderly people. That is, they are people who cannot yet, or are no longer able to obey road safety regulations properly.

Particularly children are all too often killed in housing areas when they run out into the street from behind a car or some other visual obstruction. In North Rhine-Westphalia almost fity per cent of the children involved in accidents in town centres were under the age of five.

The experiment in the fifty towns that have been chosen are designed to "quieten" traffic in housing areas and streets in the town centre which are lined with private flats and houses.

A similar experiment has already been carried out with great success in the Netherlands. Although the pedestrian shopping centres in the Federal Republic were highly praised by road safety experts as an attempt to solve traffic and road safety problems at the beginning of this decade all eyes are now turned towards the "Delft" experiment in Holland.

Last August a royal decree was issued which altered the highway code. In housing areas pedestrians are permitted to use the whole breadth of certain appropriately signposted streets. Children are permitted to play on these streets and drivers may not drive faster than walking pace. They must continually reckon with pedestrians who may cross their path, particularly children. The same applies to all sorts of objects which may be in



the middle of the road, including uneven road surfaces.

There are no no-through roads in Delft but large sections of the town centre have been made the domain of the pedestrian to all intents and purposes.

Drivers in these streets have to accustom themselves to the ruling that pedestrians have right of way. Fairly inexpensively, streets were filled with flower beds, trees and posts which oblige drivers to zig-zag at a very modest pace even when there are few pedestrians about.

Now that the kerbs have been removed and pavements levelled out to the road, the streets give the impression of being much wider. In fact, of course, with all the "objects", human and otherwise, they are considerably narrower and slower now for drivers. In places where they are apt to forget themselves or lose patience, bumps and hills have been built into the road.

By the end of last year 35 other Dutch towns and cities were following the Delft example. And ordinary citizens were volunteering to help apple-pie their streets. The whole venture seemed far more like a neighbourly campaign than any administrative measure.

According to the HUK association the test areas chosen for the North Rhine-Westphalian experiment can be divided into six main types of district, none of which is larger than one square kilometre.

Three types of district are of especial importance. The first consists of housing sectors in the centre of towns where there is a maze of streets. In such areas there are usually a great many shops and businesses of various kinds.

The second consists of housing areas further away from the centre of town where there are rather wide streets.

The third consists of so-called "satellites", that is, housing areas that have been built up on the outskirts of towns with newly made streets. Children are not involved in accidents quite so often in these areas, but accidents there tend to upset people who have deliberately moved out of the busiest part of towns even more.

None of the streets in these test areas usually has much traffic, but the areas are flanked by busy streets. Traffic will be permitted on all these roads, and parking will not generally be prohibited.

Experts are hoping that the experiment will stop drivers taking high-speed short-cuts through housing areas.

Drivers in these streets will be forced to obey the thirty kilometre per hour road signs by obstacles in the road and — more importantly — at the beginning of the road. There there will most probably be kerb stones across the road to warn drivers, as well as signs.

In narrow streets parking spaces will be made on alternate sides down the length of the road, which will force drivers to do a slow-motion slalom. In contrast to the Dutch experiment, as many parking spaces are to be made available as possible.

Surveys are to be carried out so as to supply information on how the flow of traffic is affected, whether noise decreases, what people think about the experiment before and after and how it works out with children playing in the street — in short, whether towns are safer places for people to live in.

People have long been aware that they cannot persuade drivers to drive within a 30 km speed limit just by putting up signs. Experiments have been made both here and abroad with "thresholds" in the middle of the road, but these have proved unsuccessful — not least because their success varied with different types of car. What is more they caused more noise and exhaust fumes.

The first attempts at copying the Dutch example can already be seen. One street in a town near Munich has been painted with "obstacles". And one street in Bonn has been fitted out whith various objects across its whole width and length, leaving just enough space for cars to pass slowly.

Key L. Ulrich

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 11 March 1977)

'Shrinking cities' problem discussed at conference

More than five hundred Social Democratic municipal and State Government politicians from all over the country met recently in Frankfurt to discuss why so many people are leaving towns and cities in this country and what can be done to stop this trend.

Hans Koschnick, president of the Federal Convention of Municipal Authorities, and mayor of Bremen, announced some startling figures at the conference. The population in Nuremberg has dropped below 500,000 for the first time ever, and the poulation in Trier, Fürth and Wilhelmshaven is threatening to sink below the hundred thousand mark.

Hesse premier Holger Börner offered one explanation for this, namely that young families are being pushed out of city centres by new streets, factories and office blocks. Where they move out foreign workers and their families move in as the new lower class.

As a result the average age of people living in cities is increasing, entire quarters are being taken over by foreigners and the general social level is falling rapidly.

Furthermore cities no longer have the wealth they once had because people with high incomes paying correspondingly high sums in tax are also tending to move out of the cities.

But a town's expenditure does not necessarily decrease when its population decreases. On the contrary transport and road maintenance costs rise because of the increase in commuter traffic. And the amount spent on social projects in the community also increases as socially underprivileged groups build up.

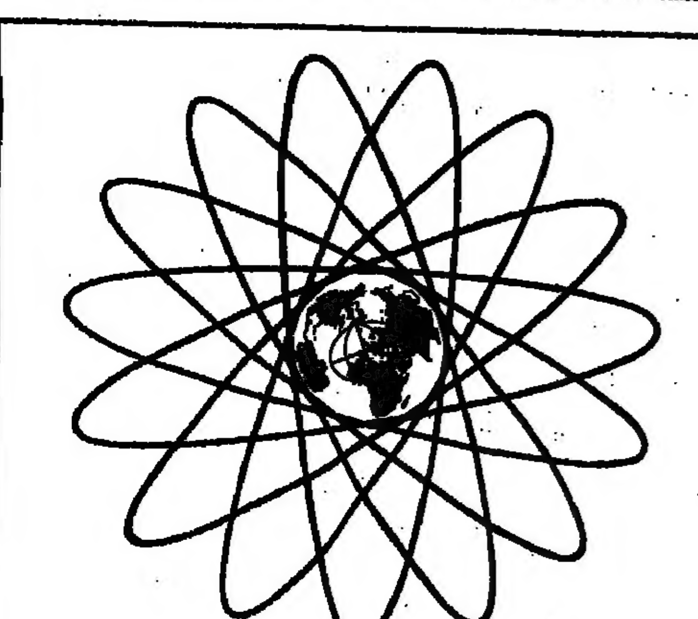
These problems have already become so pronounced that politicians and population experts are starting to divide towns into four main types.

The first type consists of "exodus" areas in more out-of-the-way parts of the country where there is little industry and lack of social and cultural infrastructure makes living there less attractive.

The second type of area suffers from similar problems. These are more urbanised areas where industry is not flourishing and there are growing numbers of unemployed. Typical towns of such areas are Herne, Oberhausen and Dortmund.

In contrast to these areas, the areas people move to, in the third category, attractively combine a thriving industry,

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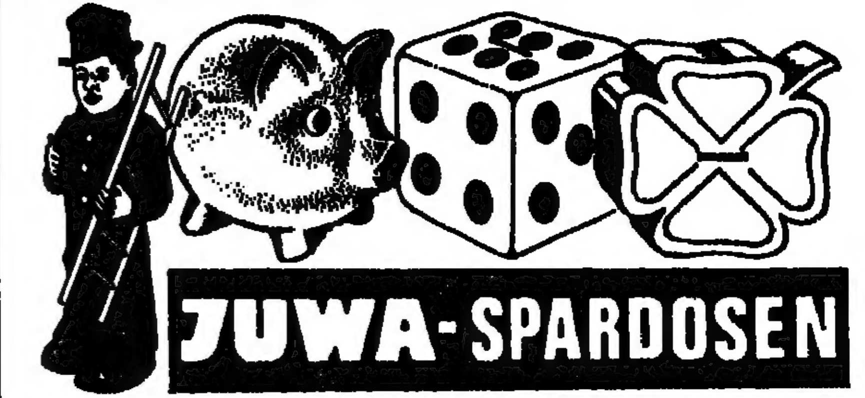
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PUBLISHING

New Stuttgart newspaper plant is an electronic 'word factory'

A huge glass and concrete building in Stuttgart could well be termed Johann Gutenberg's gravestone. The building houses the *Druck- und Verlagszentrum Stuttgart* (Printing and Publishing Centre Stuttgart). The 100 million deutschmark plant is a fully automated "word factory", electronically producing magazines and dailies.

Stuttgart's new "word factory" is a mammoth concern. Not only does it produce various advertising gazettes with a circulation of 50,000, but it also produces the *Illustrierte Wochen-Zeitung*, with a circulation of more than one million and constantly rising, as well as the dailies *Stuttgarter Zeitung* and *Stuttgarter Nachrichten*, with a combined circulation of 250,000 copies, the Stuttgarter Wochenblatt with 320,000 copies and the *Stuttgarter Amtsblatt* with a circulation of 50,000.

Is the new Stuttgart plant with its printing shops and editorial offices indicative of the future of printed media in the Federal Republic?

Does it provide an indication of the consequences which the electronic revolution will have not only on the media, but also on the day-to-day work of printers and the journalists who now sit at computer screens, working with machines rather than with the editorial pencil?

The publishers' objective is to produce their publications quickly, cleanly and cheaply. And it is they who, as they have done since time immemorial, decide how their publications are to be made. Thus their staff — printers, typesetters and editors — found themselves confronted with new and as yet untried production methods.

The editors — writers, thinkers and newspaper makers — found themselves removed from their musty old offices in Stuttgart's old town to a modern skyscraper, and there they now sit in unaccustomed glass-fronted offices with small partitions separating each desk.

Their editorial work is now done on the TV screens of computer terminals, and it is through a computer that they feed instructions to the automatic typesetting machines.

Once the computer's storage capacity has been enlarged accordingly, agency reports, too, will arrive via computer and will be shown on the screens.

But how well or how badly this agency material is presented to the readers will depend on the editors' ability to adapt to this sterile method of journalism.

Those who have always been accustomed to writing by hand or dictating their reports will find it hard to get used to editing electronically. As a result they tend to let manuscripts pass without corrections.

At the opposite end are those editors who have a natural penchant for toys. Sitting at the keyboard of their computer, they will derive pleasure from such electronic editorial games.

Their adaptability to the electronic age in editorial offices will create a new type of journalism: the "editronic" newspaperman — an editor with technical aptitude who will think nothing of usurping, on top his own job, also the typesetting job, thus creating redundancies in the newspaper business. He will take the step from newspaperman to new manufacturer.

Richard Gaul, an editor of *Stuttgarter Zeitung* and one of the small group of self-critical newspapermen in that setup, delved into the risks and opportunities inherent in the new system which he helped to build up.

Speaking on television, Herr Gaul said: "The advantages of the new system lie in the fact that at some point the newspapers will reach the newsstands much faster and will therefore be able to compete with radio and television.

"But there are also risks, one of them being the additional stress imposed on editors and the fact that the new method of making a newspaper requires considerable physical dexterity and accuracy.

"The other risk is that, once the agencies feed their material directly into the computer, there'll be the danger that the text will be printed unedited and that papers will find it easier to use agency material than to rely on their correspondents."

The technical part of the plant consists of a battery of some 40 data stations arranged in rows of three in the printing centre. There, unskilled women teletypists and hastily-trained typists (including an occasional typesetter) process every word that is to go to print.

This includes editorials and advertising, reports and news as well as notices. No specialised knowledge is required for this job.

Line-width and the splitting of words are in the hands of computers. Only the proof readers — also working on the screens of computer terminals — must be skilled.

There is a considerable wage difference between the former skilled workers and the hastily-trained women. The management of the publishing house is trying to level off these differences by using unskilled staff in their data banks.

As the system becomes perfected there will no longer be any need for independent work and decision. This will make it possible to reduce wages to the legally permissible minimum.

This is an important area for the Printers' Union in which to take action. The same applies with regard to working conditions.

It would be minimising the problem if one were to argue that working conditions have improved due to the elimination of noise by typewriters and teleprinters.

While the stress of noise might have been removed, additional stress is imposed by the monotony of the work and by the necessity to concentrate on the flickering screen. A study of the problem has been commissioned by the Federal Ministry of Labour and is now being prepared.

In any event, working conditions at the Stuttgart printing centre have not improved. The work load and the rhythm of work for the former teletype operators have become more stringent. The text processing department works eight-hour with two brief tea breaks and the mandatory lunch break.

In the Stuttgart production plant, typesetting automats have replaced manual methods. The pages of newspapers are put together on the basis of data provided by the editorial office and calculated by the computer.

The strips of paper are then pasted together by so-called digiset machines. But event this will become redundant shortly when the completed page will come out of an automat and go straight to the printers.

Stuttgart is the acme of West Germany's newspaper industry — all the way from the editorial office to distribution. Though still an exception in this country, the Stuttgart plant has a model character.

The future of the printed medium will be determined by the electronic assembly line, in other words by computer-controlled data banks and typesetting automats. This development took place some time ago in the United States as the publishers' answer to rising wage costs.

This innovation is a challenge to the Printers' Union as it is to the solidarity of newspaper editors and their professional associations.

Redundancy danger

There are still many who believe that the electronic revolution will be restricted to the production sector. And the fact that many editors have uncritically accepted their electronic jobs without heed for the redundancies they must create among the printing staff indicates that they do not realise that they, too, might one day become redundant as a result of the computer.

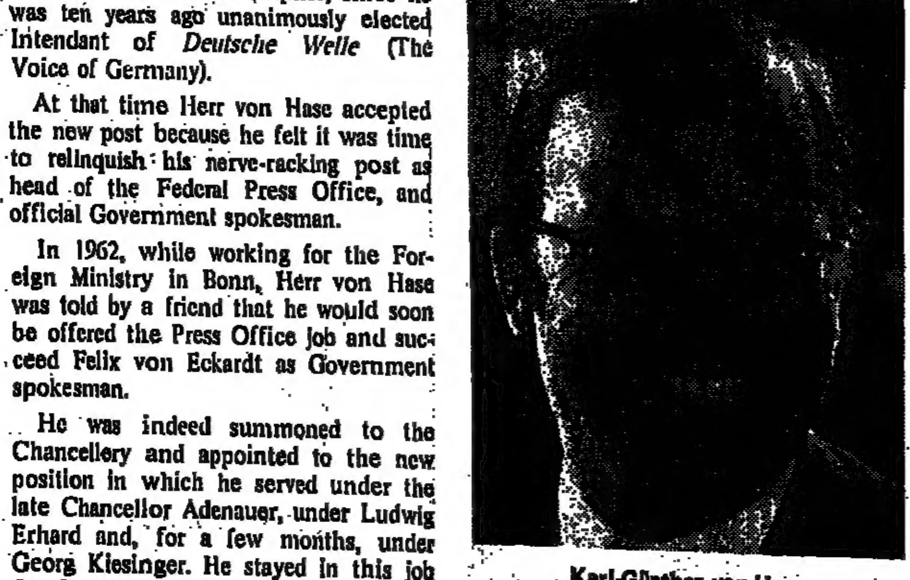
This is the mentality of a soldier who hopes that the bullet will hit the next man, but not him.

It would be ludicrous to believe that the encroachment of electronics would "impart new and decisive impulses to the editors in winning *their struggle for survival*."

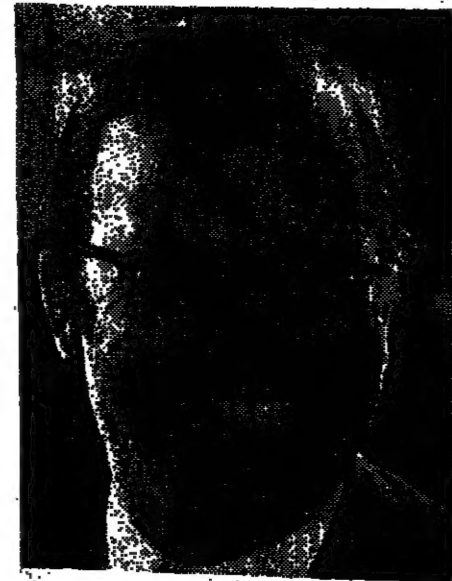
Such a victory would not only be fought for competitiveness and jobs but above all for the preservation of diversified information. This variety of information would of necessity come to harm if the basis of the publishers' decision were merely the speed with which the product can be delivered to the reader.

Bernd C. Hesslein

(Vorwärts, 10 March 1977)



Karl-Günther von Hase to head TV network



Karl-Günther von Hase (Photo: Sven Simon)

Karl-Günther von Hase, Bonn's Ambassador to London, has been voted in as the new *Intendant* (chief executive) of ZDF, this country's television Channel Two and Europe's largest TV network.

Asked if his election came as a surprise, one can only say "yes and no". It was a surprise inasmuch as he was nominated at the last moment; but on the other hand it was no surprise, since he was ten years ago unanimously elected Intendant of *Deutsche Welle* (The Voice of Germany).

At that time Herr von Hase accepted the new post because he felt it was time to relinquish his nerve-racking post as head of the Federal Press Office, and official Government spokesman.

In 1962, while working for the Foreign Ministry in Bonn, Herr von Hase was told by a friend that he would soon be offered the Press Office job and succeed Felix von Eckardt as Government spokesman.

He was indeed summoned to the Chancellery and appointed to the new position in which he served under the late Chancellor Adenauer, under Ludwig Erhard and, for a few months, under Georg Kiesinger. He stayed in this job for five years, and Bonn correspondents are agreed that he was the best Government spokesman this country ever had.

In 1967 von Hase regretfully had to forgo the post as Intendant of Deutsche Welle because the then Defence Minister Gerhard Schröder wanted him to succeed Karl Carstens as State Secretary in his Ministry. And again Karl-Günther von Hase followed the summons. As the son of a long life of Prussian civil servants, and a former officer, he felt honour-bound to serve his country.

Following the Second World War, which he served as a Major and was decorated with the Knight's Cross, von Hase attended the Foreign Service School and subsequently joined the Foreign Ministry, where he excelled in posts to which he was assigned.

Karl-Günther von Hase, 59, is a progressive conservative, but no-one knows whether he carries a party book or not. In any event, he has never been asked to show it and is unlikely that he has one.

Much more important is the fact that he was awarded the Carnival Medal "Knight Against Deadly Earnest" that the man who will henceforth be at the helm of ZDF is one of both charm and action.

Georg Schröder

(Die Welt, 10 March 1977)

FILM AND TV

Cinema posters of yesterday on show



The colourful film posters which used to adorn the entrances to cinemas have become a thing of the past. They have been replaced by soulless, mass-produced plastic lettering.

A once flourishing trade has thus come to an end as the result of the general cinema crisis. It is therefore tantamount to a miracle that some 10,000 of these throwaway posters managed to survive in an old shed. A selection of these is now on show at the *Kommunale Kino Hanover* (Community Cinema of Hanover) and that city's Art Association.

The posters originate from the vast stock of the now defunct Buchholz Company, Weilmünster in the Taunus mountain range — at one time this country's leading company in this field.

The posters were discovered by a group of Kassel design students which also wrote the — unfortunately rather meagre — catalogue comments for the exhibition.

In 1954, the company's heyday, the Buchholz outfit employed a staff of 34, supplying 800 cinemas (mostly in suburban areas and in the country) with 7,000 rented posters per month.

With its rental-fees of between six and fifteen deutschmarks, the company achieved an average monthly turnover of DM70,000.

The production of such posters is a borderline case between a trade and art. Only in exceptional cases did any of the poster painters hail from art academies because trained artists would never have been able to cope with the stress of the trade.

As a result, most of the painters were trained on the job. And yet they secretly considered themselves unrecognised artists and identified themselves more with their product than the average tradesman.

And indeed there were out and out specialists among them. The chief painter, for instance, was responsible only for the heads of the actors while his assistants painted the bodies and the background, and these in turn were assisted by the lettering experts. Frequently all these men had to work simultaneously on one poster due to pressure of time. They virtually never knew — except for a very brief synopsis — what the film they had to depict pictorially was all about.

With their bright colours and their code language, the posters were intended to have a signalling effect. Their purpose was to promote the popular film of the fifties and early sixties, such as the Western, the whodunnit, the war epic, the home-sweet-home film, the melodrama, the comedy and the "film of social significance".

In other words, the posters' function was concerned with the promotion of merchandise in the entertainment sector which is today largely supplanted by television. This provides an added indication as to why poster painting is a defunct draft today.

The posters emphasised only the star performer, entirely ignoring the director who plays a decisive role in the artistically demanding film. The exhibition clearly demonstrates the social role of the cinema at that time.

With its terse signals, the poster informed the public of what it had to expect of a particular film: a woman with a cigarette dangling from the corner of her mouth was clearly a prostitute and indicative of a film dealing with vice; musical notes indicated a film with music, a hirsute chest behind an open shirt was inevitably indicative of a pirate, and a poster full of lights and shadows before a dark background was representative of a whodunnit.

Horsemen depicted a Western and idyllic mountains told of a home-sweet-home film. Smiles and a happy mien were intended to lure the prospective audience to a comedy, while deep sorrow on the actors' faces signalled a melodrama.

The posters on exhibit date back to a time when going to a cinema was still an event. But viewing habits have changed. The posters were aimed at the cinema-goer of an era when 6,600 cinemas (compared with 3,200 today) vied for the public's favour and when the winner was the house with the most seductive posters.

Sven Hansen

(Die Welt, 11 March 1977)



Some of the posters on display

(Photo: Wilhelm Hauschild)

Future bleak for film cartoonists

This country's film cartoon animators are miffed. Says one of them: "It's incredible how we are being taken for a ride." He is one of West Germany's 20 makers of film cartoons who are struggling for survival.

Curt Linda's Munich studio (Linda-Film) has been in existence 1962. Herr Linda, who made the popular cartoon series *Geschichten aus der Geschichte* (Stories from History) for ZDF, Channel Two on this country's TV, is the only animator who can today afford to produce films of high artistic quality. The other animators were forced to work for advertising or to set up business abroad where, as Herr Linda put it, "they met with more recognition and encountered no difficulties."

Herr Linda mentioned four points which make it difficult for him and his colleagues to work in the Federal Republic:

- Most TV networks labour under the prejudice that animated cartoons can be produced cheaper abroad. Says Herr Linda: "How can they say such a thing when they never even asked us to submit offers?"
- Lack of interest, thoughtlessness and an obsession with everything foreign among our TV networks. Says Linda: "Of the few orders we receive most come from ZDF."
- Communication with the networks is virtually non-existent.
- The companies which make purchases on behalf of the TV networks impose such low prices and such bad terms as to make them unacceptable. As Herr Linda put it, "We have to forgo all rights if we are to be commissioned at all."

Curt Linda who, in 1969, made the first full-length animated cartoon in this country, entitled *Die Konferenz der Tiere* (Animals' Conference), has had plenty of experience with the practices of West German TV networks in their dealings with this country's animators.

Four years ago he made for ZDF the flaming red bus for the children's series *Kli-Kla-Klawitter*. He was supposed to have produced 13 episodes.

But because he was unable, within the two-month period available to him, to produce that many episodes (every minute of broadcasting time consists of 1,500 individual pictures) the order was cancelled and given to an American company which was also unable to deliver on time.

In the end, ZDF had to buy ready-made films for its *Kli-Kla-Klawitter* series and blend in the red bus. Curt Linda, however, had — according to the terms of his contract — forgone all rights concerning his bus with the pilot episode.

Says Herr Linda: "My successful bus can meanwhile be found printed on T-shirts and ashtrays without my getting a single penny for it."

Commissioned by the Bavarian TV network, Linda in 1973 made the film *Die Maus auf dem Mars* (The Mouse on Mars). This was shown at the Milan Film Fair, and five European countries were so enthusiastic about Linda's *Mouse* that they decided to extend the series to 26 episodes.

Telepool GmbH, Munich, was to be responsible for the co-production. This is a buying company operating on behalf of the Bavarian TV network. But nego-

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Documentary on TV's popular *Sesame Street*

Few TV series have had such widespread success and have been so deeply gone into by experts and critics as *Sesame Street*.

The series was originally conceived in the United States as a teaching aid for underprivileged children and was subsequently amended to a programme for pre-school children from all social strata. The series has been so successful that many nations of the world have taken it over in their own national adaptations.

This country is no exception, and the *Sesame Street* characters are thoroughly familiar to our children.

Like the series itself, discussion about its effect and ways of improving it continues.

The "International Central Institute for Youth and Educational Television", headed by Professor Hertha Sturm, Munich, has now attempted to take stock and has presented a collection of reviews and reports.

A number of these papers deal with the origins of the series, research results in connection with it and the consequences drawn from it in the United States while others examine its effects in various other countries.

Professor Helmut Oeller, TV director of the Bavarian Broadcasting System, explains the reasons for the rejection of *Sesame Street* by the Bavarian network a few years ago, saying that the educational concept of it was — despite its pseudo-modern cloak — obsolete and that it exceeded the comprehension ability of children.

He also pointed out that its social relevance did not apply to conditions in this country and that the series operated with the usual methods of market research.

Professor Janpeter Kob, director of the Hans Bredow Institute for Radio and Television, Hamburg, examines the reasons for the popular and lasting appeal of the series and the lessons to be drawn from this.

He points out that there can be no doubt that children of pre-school age receive systematic and unproblematic help through *Sesame Street*.

According to him, it can be said with certainty that a purpose-oriented TV programme promotes the intellectual ability of children more than their normal environment.

But he also points out that parents must take an active part in furthering this learning process and that they must do so increasingly as this process becomes more complicated. As a result, children from a better social environment have an advantage there, too.

This meritorious compendium is augmented by an extensive bibliography devoted primarily to research literature on *Sesame Street* and to the series' adoption in various countries.

Brigitte Beer

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 14 March 1977)

■ HEALTH

Keeping busy means staying young longer, say neurologists at Berlin conference

"Women stay young until quite late in life. They always have plenty to do at home. The same goes for men with hobbies which keep them active," said neuropathologist Professor Cervos-Navorro at the end of a lecture on recent research into the ageing process of the human brain. He was speaking at a conference of the Berlin Society for Psychiatry and Neurology.

Apparently there is more than a little truth in the old saying that keeping busy means keeping young. Gerontologists — scientists who study the process of ageing — now say that on average the process of real physical and mental degeneration does not begin until about ninety.

Many "signs of old age" are in fact only symptoms of illness and are often curable. In treating elderly patients, doctors have to take into account not only physical and mental but also social factors, said Professor Siegfried Kanowski, who organised the conference.

He said that gerontological research cannot afford to limit its studies to natural sciences and medicine. It is also necessary to devote some considerable attention to the Arts and social sciences.

Unfortunately too many elderly people are given inadequate or even wrong treatment when doctors are not helped by their patient's relatives and by social services.

Past studies show that the elderly and even doctors and hospital staff often have a general, negative attitude towards old people and their ailments. This has resulted in a wide-spread feeling of resignation as regards illness — particularly mental illness — in old age which often hinders successful treatment.

A representative study carried out in Göttingen recently came up with new evidence to support the fact that old age need not necessarily be accompanied by ill-health.

Almost half the interviewees, all of whom were over seventy, were in good or even very good health. About a third showed no signs whatever of psychological disturbance and a further forty per cent had only mild psychological complaints such as forgetfulness.

Dr Burkhard Kraus from Göttingen went on to say that the study also looked into how often elderly people see a doctor. Paradoxically eight per cent of the fittest saw their doctor more than ten times a year, while eight per cent of the least fit never saw a doctor from one year's end to the next.

Primarily those who were never treated were those who were not only physically, but also mentally, ailing. These were obviously not in a fit state to do anything to help themselves by calling a doctor.

Many old people simply resign themselves to putting up with their illnesses. On average interviewees admitted to having 1.3 ailments. However a closer examination showed that they were suffering from about four separate ailments.

The majority of elderly patients who saw their doctor regularly were well treated and well cared for. But there were some who had not been thoroughly examined for years although several of them were suffering from chronic illnesses.

These patients were often given prescription after prescription without being given exact written instructions as to how, when and to what purpose the prescribed drugs and medicines were to be taken. Not a few of them had not the faintest notion what they should do with the medicines they had been prescribed.

What is more, as many as 45 per cent of them had been given medicines which have no proven effect and are therefore rejected by geriatricians. One patient had been given as many as seven such prescriptions at one time.

A psychiatric outpatients' clinic which was opened in Hamburg last year does not prescribe "geriatric" medicines which are supposed to improve circulation in the brain. Instead, where this is necessary, patients are given heart and circulation treatment, as Dr Claus Wächtler explained at the conference.

He shared the opinion of psychiatrist Dr Claus Haring that mentally disturbed patients should be constantly examined and observed for signs of physical illness.

Dr Haring particularly stressed that such patients should be physically examined before being given drugs for treatment of the mind which could suppress symptoms of other illness.

Outpatients' clinics abroad have had considerable success with group therapy of various sorts. This proved similarly successful in Hamburg.

At first the thirty patients the clinic can treat were all full admissions, but recently doctors have been referring elderly people to the clinic for psychiatric treatment as outpatients in the hope of avoiding the necessity of full admission elsewhere.

Herr Wächtler added, however, that treatment of this sort in the Hamburg clinic is not suitable for seriously mentally unbalanced patients and patients who are suffering from severe depression and are in danger of committing suicide.

Depending on the individual complaint, patients are placed in conversation groups, given occupational therapy or games designed to activate the brain more. This treatment improves patients' memories, ability to mix socially and be independent.

The main emphasis is on solving patients' problems *with* them rather than *for* them. The clinic works as closely as possible with patients' family, GP and social background generally.

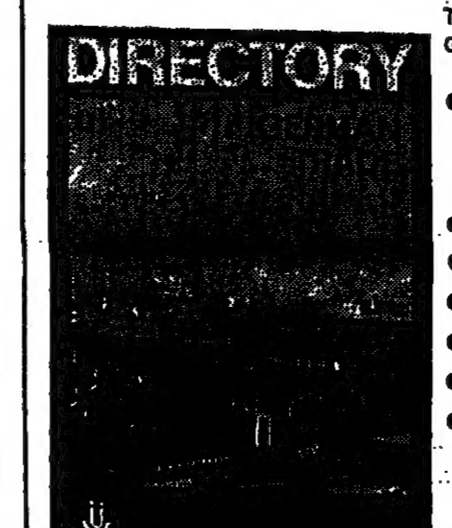
In quite a few so-called hopeless cases such treatment has made full admission to hospital or an old people's home unnecessary.

Patients who are not admitted to hospital should be treated primarily by

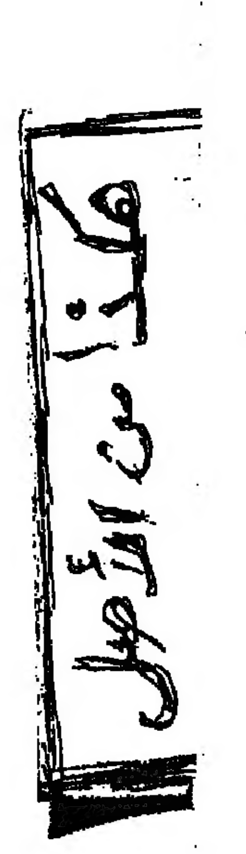
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■ EDUCATION

Mass of teaching aids at *didacta* education fair

The *didacta* European educational materials fair which took place in Hanover at the beginning of March proved to be a fair for experts only. And even they wre somewhat bewildered by the confusing profusion of every sort of teaching and learning aid under the sun that was on display there.

And the layman could do little but look around the sub-departments of the fair such as the school books section.

Feelings of frustration were running particularly high at this year's exhibition. The money that was there in past years is gone and with it the imposing signs of progress and reform.

Furthermore people are becoming more and more sceptical about extensive use of electrical and electronic apparatus in the classroom. There is a strong feeling that children should be learning more directly from their teachers than from screens and tapes.

A first glance through the fair was at once dazzling, confusing and mildly depressing for visitors.

It was one massive, confusing exhibition of offers from fifteen exhibition groups — all the latest language laboratories and teaching equipment, teaching books and programmes, teaching aids for use in special school for backward children, kindergartens, primary schools, pre-vocational training and school management.

Nevertheless visitors came away somewhat resigned. After all, in times like these what innovations can be expected?

At any rate technical innovations were no longer the striking centre point of the fair. The *didacta* organisers, the Federal Teaching Aids Association, as well as the exhibitors directed their efforts more towards limiting their exhibits to the realms of the possible for the average school without absolutely discarding all the reform ideas of the past few years.

In 1975 the education industry's turnover stagnated around the 1,300 million deutschmarks level. That means that two per cent of all the money invested in education went into teaching aids.

Almost half the member of the Teaching Aids Association suffered losses in turnover of on average seventeen per cent. Only a quarter of the manufacturers reckon with an increase in business this year.

Even school book publishers' optimism is somewhat dampened. In 1977 they are expecting a turnover of "only" 500 million deutschmarks.

The message for the Teaching Aids Association is clear enough. It must drop the all-absorbing idea of the technical possibilities in teaching and learning and concentrate more on the social aspect of learning.

Teachers are finally being valued well above machines again, with the trend towards the "personal touch" growing stronger.

Significantly the Association awarded its 15,000 deutschmark Pestalozzi prize to the Munich paediatrician Theodor Hellbrügge for his work in teaching normal and handicapped children together in one school.

The fair had little to offer the individual teacher and his classroom requirements, so it was no surprise that the special exhibitions and shows were well attended from the first day onwards.

The fair included twelve conferences and four special exhibitions, including the Unesco forum "School and the Third World", a conference on teaching methods for handicapped or backward children and some conferences on adult education.

The Frankfurt Institute for Educational Media organised a forum where experts from schools and universities, education politicians and authors delivered lectures on various aspects of the education system.

Visitors to the fair had ample opportunity to enter into discussions on education themselves at the Rudolf Steiner Schools stand, for instance.

It was in discussions that took place there that it became obvious that a great many people were less interested in the fair itself as the opportunity to talk to others about the present education crisis and ways in which it could be dealt with.

Ursula Bode

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 9 March 1977)

'Shrinking cities'

Continued from page 8

agriculture and pleasant rural surroundings within easy reach.

Frankfurt, Stuttgart and Munich are typical of the fourth type of area. There there are many insurance firms, banks, department stores and so on and large numbers of people are employed there who do not necessarily live in the city itself. In these cities the number of jobs continues to rise, despite the fact that population statistics are falling steadily.

As Herr Koschnick pointed out, "If the commuter express trains operate up to twenty kilometes outside Munich, it is by no means impossible for commuters to live comforably in the country outside the city, even at a distance of thirty kilometes or so."

According to an Emnid survey 74 per cent of the population would like to have a house in the country. Leader of the SPD in Munich Adolf Heckel said, however, that although the population in the rural areas outside Munich was growing rapidly the number of people living in the city itself was also rising.

Neither Rudi Arndt, mayor of Frankfurt, Holger Börner, Hans Koschnick nor any of the other politicians at the conference was able to propose a way of discouraging people from leaving towns and cities. However, they agreed unanimously that existing houses should be modernised before new ones were built.

But mayor of Cologne John van Nes Ziegler cast a doubt on hopes that renovating and modernising areas of a town alone can dissuade people from leaving it. He said that when this was tried in Cologne and Duisburg population statistics continued to fall.

Gerhard Kneier

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 12 March 1977)

Continued from page 12

their GPs, said Dr Eike Hinze from Berlin. Sometimes, however, an outpatients' clinic has to take over this work, particularly where stimulation through group therapy is required.

The geriatric department of the Charlottenburg psychiatric hospital in Berlin has come to have a high opinion of group therapy. Since psychoreactive illnesses such as depression have been on the increase, group therapy is becoming increasingly important.

Dr Hinze added that it is important to maintain and build up contact with patients' neighbours, friends and family so that they are not suddenly left stranded after their treatment.

Many elderly people who are mentally ill often have to be put in homes or admitted to hospital in the end simply because there is no-one to look after them or keep them company.

But once there, their social situation is often hardly better. In large psychiatric hospitals the passive monotony of life often worsens patients' state of mental health.

Professor Wolfram Keup, director of the Karl Bonhoeffer hospital in Berlin pointed out that in theory such large hospitals ought to be better able to carry on such group therapy than smaller places where psychiatric treatment consisted in administering drugs in many cases. But the money this requires is simply not available.

About half the long-term patients in hospitals should not be there at all, according to Dr Klaus Lieberz of the Bonhoeffer hospital. If they were given adequate out-patient treatment they could stay at home.

Rosemarie Stein

(Der Tagesspiegel, 10 March 1977)

Five States now offer workers educational leave

Few people are aware that working people in five states in the Federal Republic are entitled to extra leave for educational purposes in addition to their annual vacation.

Hamburg was the first state to bring in this special "holiday", with a ruling which came into force on 1 April 1974.

Earlier that year Social Democrat MP Manfred Lohmann said in Hamburg, "Educational vacation for political and vocational training purposes is intended to help working people fulfill their duties as citizens of the Federal Republic in the field of politics, whether from the economic, social, cultural or vocational standpoint."

The idea was by no means new in Hamburg. It has been on the cards ever since the first SPD/FDP government declaration in 1969 which put it forward as a plan for the future.

The Herr Chancellor, Willy Brandt, was able to refer to the International Conference of Labour which had been held four years previously and which passed a resolution to the effect that paid educational leave was to be introduced in all member states.

Lower Saxony, Hesse and Bremen followed Hamburg's example on 1 January 1975, as did Berlin on 1 April 1975, and passed legislation introducing educational vacation for employed people.

Various clauses concerning educational leave have also been included in legislation governing further education and vocational trianing as well as in 198 industrial agreements.

But these cover a different sector of the working population and do not have such wide application as the educational vacation Acts which have been passed in Lower Saxony, Bremen, Berlin, Hesse and Hamburg.

But even the Acts passed in these five states differ quite considerably from each other. In Lower Saxony, Bremen and Hamburg all employed people are entitled to educational leave.

In Hesse and Berlin on the other hand employed people, students and trainees are entitled to such holiday only up to the age of twenty-five. And in Lower Saxony applicants for educational vacation must have been employed by their firm for at least six months.

The length of leave differs, too. Lower Saxony, Hamburg and Bremen allow ten days every two years. Berlin allows ten days per annum, and Hesse at least five days per annum.

But in all five states such holiday is given only for "political, vocational and general further education".

This sounds almost unlimited in scope, but in fact many courses for which people would like to obtain vacation, are turned down by the authorities as unsuitable.

Each of the five states has a list of the institutes and establishments which may be applied for. In Hamburg there were about 360 on the list in 1976, in Bremen 190, Lower Saxony 150 and in Berlin and Hesse about three hundred.

Possible fields of study cover everything from public speaking to business studies, data processing courses to social studies and language courses. And language courses can be taken in Moscow, New York and various places in England.

Anyone who is granted educational leave receives his normal salary for the time he is away from work and the courses he takes are also free of charge.

The only snag is that employees have to pay travelling and living costs themselves — which may be a bit expensive for those who want to go to the States.

But the important thing is no one need worry about jeopardising his chances at work by taking educational vacation.

Fear of this may be one reason why so few people have taken advantage of the chance they are being offered. By the end of 1975 only nine thousand people had taken educational leave in Berlin, 42,000 in Hamburg, 6,400 in Hesse, ten thousand in Lower Saxony and three thousand in Bremen. Altogether this amounts to only one per cent of those elgible.

So as yet employers' fears that the financial burden such legislation would impose on them have ot been borne out. But this can still change.

In 1976 former chairman of the Young Socialists, MP Jochen Roth proposed that educational vacation be introduced nationally in an attempt to combat structual unemployment.

But such holiday can only be made available to everyone when the country's economic situation picks up. After all it is — or could be — a heavy burden for employers to carry, one that they simply cannot afford at the moment, however attractive the thought of educational vacation may be to employees.

Peter Brinkmann

(Die Welt, 5 March 1977)

■ LAW

West Germany gets tougher over pleas for political asylum



The Federal Republic must not allow itself to become an asylum for all the political cast-offs of the eastern world" is the plaintive cry that has been heard from Bavaria for some time.

It also claims that the Federal Republic has increased its intake of political refugees far more than any other country in recent years.

The statistics tell another tale, however. Switzerland and France take in 85 per cent of those seeking asylum there. Denmark takes in 59 per cent, Belgium 57 per cent and the Netherlands 56 per cent.

The Federal Republic, however, lets in only forty per cent of political refugees seeking asylum within its borders. Only Britain, Italy and Austria let in fewer.

Despite this the Federal Ministry of the Interior, working in cooperation with state Ministries of the Interior, has been preparing the way for even tighter restrictions, which, in effect, are in total opposition to provisions laid down in Basic Law, this country's constitution.

The law came into effect in 1949. Many of the MPs at that time still had vivid memories of what it is like to be a refugee, and how escaping to other countries from Nazi Germany saved their lives.

The thought of this was enough to persuade them that the right of asylum should be included in Basic Law. At that time it was laid down that no one seeking political asylum may be turned away at the border.

But his is exactly what will be happening from now on.

Up to now foreigners seeking political asylum were given a printed form by border guards, with which they had to go to the Federal Office for Foreign Refugees.

While their cases were being looked into, they were given accommodation, food, pocket money and a medical check-up. If asylum was granted they were then told where they could stay.

Fairly frequently villages rather off the beaten track were chosen for their first months in this country.

But from now on, border officials will be able to turn refugees away at the customs barrier if they consider the person in question is abusing the right of asylum.

This is in direct contravention of the nonrefoulment principle whereby political refugees may not be sent back to the country they have fled from.

During the last war umpteen politicians in this country would have been helplessly delivered up to the Nazis had they been refused political asylum elsewhere. Willy Brandt, for instance, might well never have become Chancellor.

Anyone who is refused political asylum at the border can contact law courts only with difficulty. The border police are more or less solely responsible for checking reasons for applications for political asylum, although this was rejected by all parties in the Bundestag in 1965.

Only Baden-Württemberg has been practising this in the case of Jordanian *and Pakistani refugees since it issued* decrees to this effect in 1975 and 1976.

Refugees from the East bloc have a good chance of not being refused asylum, as have refugees from Chile and South Vietnam.

Refugees from Ethiopia and Eritrea have fair to middling chances of being granted asylum, but Palestinians and Pakistanis have practically no chance of being able to stay in the Federal Republic.

Ninety per cent of the people who have been granted asylum so far come from East bloc countries.

Between 1953 and 1972 the number of people asking for asylum fluctuated between 2,000 and 5,000 — not counting refugees from Czechoslovakia and the 14,000 Hungarians (October uprising 1956).

More than nine thousand pleas for political asylum have been registered since 1974. The number of refugees from the East bloc has remained fairly constant at 2,500. Now many more Palestinians, Chileans, Ethiopians and Pakistanis are asking for asylum.

Whether a person is granted asylum or not is *decided* in his absence in two out of three cases. If refused asylum he may appeal to six courts of justice, including the Federal Constitutional Court. Although fairly many people take advantage of their right of appeal not many meet with success.

However, once granted asylum, refugees find that they are given social standing and rights equalled by no other country.

The new stipulations have been agreed upon by the Minister of the Interior so secretly that protests from the Federal Trades Unions Association, the Church, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Geneva and Amnesty International have come too late.

State Ministers of Justice and Social Affairs allegedly knew nothing of the plans before they became public knowlege.

The Federal Republic is playing a double game here. It has been paying large sums to UN subsidiary bodies. And at the conference on political asylum in Geneva the Federal Republic forcefully put forward its view that noone asking for political asylum should be sent back to the country he has fled from.

Yet the new regulations in no way reflect the liberal views this country so strongly upheld at the international conference.

Ernst Klee

(Die Zeit, 4 March 1977)

Münster psychologists teach people how to overcome phobias

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

Phobias — uncontrollable fear of certain things — often result from a shock experienced early in life. Even when people suffering from such fears know that they are unfounded, they are unable to control them.

Phobias are as varied as they are difficult to treat. While one person gasps for breath on entering a lift, the next will break out in sweat in wide open spaces. Others lose all control on seeing a spider, looking down from heights or being hustled along in a crowd.

Psycholanalysis has been used successfully in discovering the cause of the individual's phobia, the course it takes, and in eliminating it.

But successful though this method of treatment is, it is available to too few people, not least because of the worldwide shortage of psychoanalysts.

So psychologists at Münster University have been tackling the problem from another angle. They have been teaching people with phobias about the causes and development of phobias in general rather than concentrating on finding out the specific cause of a patient's phobia and so curing him.

The Münster psychologists put advertisements in newspapers *inviting anyone* suffering from phobias to an "anti-phobia training" scheme.

About a hundred people of all age-groups replied to the advertisements. Fifty-six of these were particularly bad cases and could not be helped at all.

The others were given a six-day intensive training programme with several hours of lectures per day. During this time they were taught in detail about the psychological causes and effects of phobias and the various forms they can take.

At the same time they also had their individual fears explained to them, took part in discussions over what sort of situations phobias can occur and what they can do to overcome them.

Then they were thrown in at the deep end. Either alone or in groups the patients were put in the situation in which they would normally be paralysed with fear and panic. And by consciously controlling themselves, knowing that they were under expert supervision, many of them actually overcame their fears.

The remainder of the training course consisted in propelling patients forward into more and more difficult "test" situations. Nine out of ten patients continued to respond well and were able to build up enough confidence to cope with everyday life without major difficulties.

The Münster psychologists are still improving on this treatment method. It is still too early to declare it an out-and-out success even for mild cases.

But later checks on patients indicate that they are free of their earlier phobias. At least ninety per cent of those who completed the course say that even after some time their phobias are only half as severe as formerly, if not fully cured.

Hermann M. Steiner

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 5 March 1977)

A good job, marriage and a car is what most teenagers want

Few of this country's fifteen- to nineteen-year olds relish the thought of having to work a great deal during their careers according to a survey carried out by the Marplan research institute in Offenbach for the McCann advertising agency last year.

The survey, which was a repeat of a similar study carried out in 1966, set out to find out what this country's 9.77 million youngsters think and hope about their personal future. Altogether 1,140 girls and boys were interviewed.

The questionnaire they filled in covered sixteen points concerning their future work ranging from "my ideal job" to "no definite plans".

Only nine per cent of the country's fifteen- to nineteen- year old boys said they wanted to work "a lot". Fifteen per cent intended to work "as little as possible". For girls of the same age the corresponding figures were eight and thirteen per cent.

All the same, 68 per cent of the boys and 57 per cent of the girls had a specific "satisfying career" in mind.

The boys thought the next most important things after a job were to have a car (59 per cent), to be married (51 per cent), to have a good income (50 per cent) and to have a house of their own (46 per cent).

Sixty-six per cent of the girls had their sights set on marrying, but fifty-seven per cent also felt a satisfying occupation was important. Unlike boys, girls ranked "a nice home" before a car (49 and 43 per cent), but only 41 per cent of the girls wanted to actually own a house.

A comparative survey among twenty- to 29-year olds indicates that the youngsters' views of the future are by no means wide of the mark.

A third of the men in the twenty to 29 year age group had a car by the time they were twenty. By the time they were twenty-three, 21 per cent of the men and 77 per cent of the women had their own households. And 46 per cent of the men and 70 per cent of the women were married by the age of 25.

The amount of freedom adolescents have today bears no comparison to the amount they had in 1966.

At that time only two per cent of fifteen- to nineteen-year old boys were permitted to come home at night as late as they wished. Only half this number of girls were allowed this freedom.

By 1976, forty-two per cent of the girls and 48 per cent of the boys in this age group could come and go at home exactly when they please.

Things are apparently looking up for women's equality, too. In 1966 forty per cent of the youngsters interviewed thought that a women's place is in the home. Last year only 27 per cent were prepared to say this.

The most important political and social issues today, according to the interviewees, are anti-pollution measures (boys 66 per cent, girls 64 per cent), anti-terrorist measures (58 and 57 per cent), education reforms (50 and 51 per cent) more co-determination, (23 and 24 per cent, *Ostpolitik* (21 and 20 per cent) cutbacks on development aid (eleven and ten per cent) and nationalisation of banks and large industrial concerns (seven and six per cent).

Eleven years ago only a third of the interviewees considered the Bundeswehr to be indispensible. Now 58 per cent of this country's young people think this.

dpa

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 9 March 1977)

■ SPORT

Footballers are eating the wrong foods, say doctors



Steak and salad is the traditional meal this country's 349 professional footballers sit down to before matches. But doctors are now saying this is all wrong, because it lowers their potential stamina on the field.

"No other public sector sins so much in its eating habits as our League footballers" says Rüdiger Werner of the Bochum Institute for Physical Therapy and Medical Rehabilitation. "Sometimes you'd think they were all amateurs."

Heart and circulation specialist Professor Wildor Hollmann of the Federal College of Physical Education in Cologne says "If it's not steak and salad it's something twice as bad, such as a really fat leg of pork."

So doctors' orders from now on are less of the steak and more pasta, biscuits, bread and cereals — not a change of menu that is likely to appeal to many players.

However, as Dr Werner explains, meat has too high a protein content to be easily converted into bodily protein. And the animal fat is not a good energy supplier.

As a result the body has to work too hard to digest such food and convert it into energy and players become tired more quickly.

Dr Werner says meat, fish, vegetables, fruit and salad should only form the basis of a footballer's diet. Footballers need about four to six thousand calories per day, and should eat six or seven times per day so as to make the process of digestion easier. But 48 hours before a match they should start eating more carbohydrates.

Professor Hollmann explains, "Carbohydrates are particularly important for stamina on the field. After about forty minutes play, the footballers' performance then depends on the glycogen deposits in their muscles.

"On average a man has 1.5 gramms of carbohydrate per 100 gramms of muscle in his thighs. If I give a man only carbohydrates for three days after this store is exhausted, he then has three gramms per hundred gramms. That makes quite a difference to his performance on the field.

"And if I give him only protein and fats for three days and follow this up with three days of carbohydrates he will have as much as five gramms of carbohydrate per hundred gramms of muscle."

An experiment carried out by the College of Physical Education with players of Fortuna Köln confirms this. During four weeks of qualifying matches for the League they ate mainly noodles and were in better form than their opponents.

In their last few games they scored an incredible number of goals and managed to get into division one.

But, as Professor Hollmann says, "It is difficult to persuade players that such a diet is better. Apart from anything else a steak is a lot more appetising than a bowl of porrige."

And Dr Werner says "I believe trainers are mainly to blame for players' eating habits because they are openly sceptical about what are actually medical facts. But correct eating habits are becoming an increasingly important aspect of sports training."

He has compiled a list of "forbidden" foods for trainers who are prepared to listen to medical advice. These include fats of any kind, hard-boiled eggs, smoked fish, roast goose, sardines in oil, whole-wheat products with a high cellulose content, alcohol, milk, and leguminous plants such as peas, beans and lentils.

All the same, despite scepticism, a lot of clubs have been changing over to new eating habits since the last meeting of League trainers. And the results can already be seen in some cases where players' performance has suddenly improved beyond expectation.

Bernd Weber

(Die Welt, 11 March 1977)

National trainer's post likely for Franz Beckenbauer

West German soccer star Franz Beckenbauer may take over as Jupp Derwall's assistant when Derwall becomes trainer of the national team after the World Championship in Argentinia in the summer of next year. And in ten years or so Beckenbauer could become trainer of the national team when Derwall retires.

Hermann Neuberger, president of the Federal Football Association is known to be a man of spontaneous and unexpected decisions. But when he announced this plan to journalists recently you could have knocked most of them down with a feather.

Admittedly it was no news that when national trainer Helmut Schön retires next year his assistant, fifty-year old Jupp Derwall would take his place.

But the idea of Franz Beckenbauer as Derwall's assistant caused a sensation even Hermann Neuberger can hardly have expected.

"We can't let good men like Beckenbauer slip through our fingers," he says. "He'll be valuable when it comes to reformering the national team after the World Championship in 1978."

The plan could turn out to be explosive to say the least if what some people have already taken Neuberger's announcement to mean is true — namely that Jupp Derwall will be trainer only until Beckenbauer has learned the ropes of the job.

"That makes it sound as if I would only be a stop-gap" says Jupp Derwall a little worriedly. "I can't believe that Herr Neuberger really said and meant that. The matter will have to be cleared up properly."

As regards salary, Beckenbauer would have to start thinking in more modest terms if he were to take the job. A national trainer earns about eight thousand deutschmarks per month, and his assistant about half that amount.

"You've got to look at it from the practical point of view," says Beckenbauer. "Football is what I know most about, so I'm not altogether against the idea."

Hermann Neuberger must have been working hard on him, because previously the job did not appeal to him at all. He always used to say "Me? a trainer? I'm not the stuff that trainers are made of."

But, as Neuberger pointed out in Düsseldorf, with a talented man like Beckenbauer it is worthwhile giving him the training he lacks.

Franz Beckenbauer will ge giving Neuberger his final decision during the South American tour between the 12 and 14 June. Neuberger seems to be in a hurry to have the whole thing settled.

Derwall, on the other hand, takes the view that it is still too early either to make any final decisions or to get excited about what will happen when Helmut Schön retires.

Derwall for one cannot envisage Franz Beckenbauer sitting next to him on the trainers' bench. "Franz is a great player. He's more valuable to me on the field than at the side of it."

Another point in favour of Beckenbauer remaining a player, as Derwall sees it, is that Beckenbauer's contract with Bayern München does not run out until 1979.

Beckenbauer is not making up his mind just yet. "There are a lot of things to consider" he says. One of those things is doubtless the top position he now enjoys as a footballer.

Ulfert Schröder

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 14 March 1977)

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Jürgen Friedrich

(Photo: Horstmüller)

Jürgen Friedrich first former player to head League club

Jürgen Friedrich, aged 33, is the first former professional football player to become president of a national League club. In the election for the FC Kaiserslautern president's chair he just beat Willy Müller with 357 votes to 349. Willi Müller will now be stepped down after eight years' doubtless valuable service to the club as president.

During his soccer career Jürgen Friedrich scored altogether 38 goals in 156 League games for Eintracht Frankfrut (1962 to 1968) and FC Kaiserslautern (1968 to 1973). He now owns a boutique.

Now that Friedrich has been elected it is almost certain that trainer Erich Ribbeck will stay with the club. Before the election he states categorically that he would not stay with the club "under a president like Müller."

At the beginning of the year Müller had tried to have him relieved from duty because of the club's poor position in the League. But the motion was defeated in the committee vote by 1:5 against. Since then the rift between Ribbeck and Müller has become irreparable.

After his election Friedrich said "I want Ribbeck to stay. He is a very good trainer and is on the best of terms with the people in Kaiserslautern. We are going to start negotiations with him over an extension of his contract."

Friedrich said he aimed for a more up to date running of the club, wanted long-term contracts, better publicity, and, where possible, that former players should be retained by the club in other jobs. The national League has already employed thirteen former professionals as trainers, and two as managers. Jürgen Friedrichs is, however the first one to become president of a club.

Karl Richter/sid

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 9 March 1977)

Tough task ahead

This country's handball team will face stiff opposition in their qualifying round for the next world championships, which are to be held next year in Denmark.

They will be in one group alongside Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia and the country, as yet undecided, that will represent the Americas.

"It will be hard work," says team manager Heinz Jacobsen. "Yugoslavia are one of the toughest opponents we could have had. We shall just have to make the best of it."

sid

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 18 March 1977)